THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, 8th August 1955.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at half-past eight of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I think the hon. Member Sri N. K. Palanisamy is not putting the Short Notice question given notice of by him.

" Short Notice Question No. 2 given notice of by the hon. Member Sri Kalyanasundaram will at his request be taken up at the end."

Selection Committees for Government Training Schools

1989 Q.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN (on behalf of Sri M. Dharmalingam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether committees are constituted for each Government Training School for the selection of candidates to be admitted in them;

(b) if so, on what basis the members are appointed; and

(c) whether non-officials are also appointed?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) There are no Selection Committees for ordinary Government Training Schools; but in the case of Government *Basic* Training schools there are Advisory Committees, the selection of candidates for training being one of its functions.

" (b) & (c) The Advisory Committee consists of the Controlling Officer, that is, the District Educational Officer or the Inspectress of Schools as the case may be, the head of the institution concerned, the Presidents of the respective district boards and a non-official interested in Basic Education."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Arising out of the reply given by the Hon. Minister with regard to the Selection Committee for Basic Training schools, may I know why the Hon. Minister is keen in having only one party men on the Committees instead of having it broad-based so as to create all-round popular confidence with regard to selection of candidates? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, party considerations do not come into the picture at all. If the hon. Member had paid attention to my answer he would find that I have stated ' non-officials interested in Basic Education '

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are put on the committee. Therefore the member appointed to the committee has got to have faith in Basic Education. That is the only consideration.''

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—'' May I know whether any instructions have been issued to the members of the Selection Committee to select only candidates coming from a certain area, that is surrounding the basic school called the belt area and have Government received any complaints from candidates residing outside the belt area that they have not been selected? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' Sir, naturally preference will have to be given to condidates coming from the belt area. Subject to that others also are eligible for selection.''

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—'' May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that one of the Members of the Selection Committee appointed for the Villupuram Training centre has no faith or belief in Basic Education? When that is the case, may I know why he was appointed on the Committee, Sir? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' Sir, we thought that he had some faith in Basic Education. But if it is brought to our notice that he has absolutely no faith, certainly the question whether he should be appointed for the next year will be considered.''

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—''It is not true that only Congressmen are appointed on these Committees. For instance the hon. Member Sri A. Govindaswamy Nayagar who is notorious for his non-Congress activities has been chosen for appointment on the Committee for the Villupuram Basic Education centre. That is not my point now. I only wanted to give some information to the Government by referring to his appointment. May I know, Sir, why in South Arcot district, only members from the Legislature have been selected to serve on the committees whereas in respect of the Committees in Chingleput district, no Member of this House has been chosen to serve on the Committees even though most of them possess sufficient knowledge of Basic Education and faith in Basic Education also? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' I do not know, Sir, whether the hon. Member has faith in Basic Education. Anyhow, if he has, certainly his case will be considered next year.''

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—'' Sir, after all, the business of the Committee is to select candidates for admission to Basic Education schools. Whether a particular member of the Committee has faith in Basic Education or not does not at all come into the picture in the matter of selection of candidates. Therefore may I know why Government should have this principle, namely, to appoint only persons who have faith in Basic Education, on the Committee? ''

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" That argument has no basis at all since it was pointed out by the hon. Member Sri K. Vinayakam that hon. Member Mr. Govindasamy has been appointed as one of the Members of the Committee for the Villupuram centre. He cannot be considered to be a supporter of the Congress. Even he has been selected for appointment on the Committee. Absolutely therefore no such consideration has entered into this."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" According to philosophers, even including Swami Vivekananda, 'faith transcends reason'. That being so, may I know, how the Government measure the faith of persons in this respect?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" At least there should be a profession of faith."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" தஞ்சாவூரில் நடக்கும் பேஸிக் ட்ரெயினிங் ஸ்கூலுக்கு பட்டுக்கோட்டையில் இருக்கக்கூடிய ஒருவர் மெம்பராகத் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறார். இப்படி ஏன் செய்யவேண்டும் ? தஞ்சாவூர் நகரத்திலேயே தகுதியுள்ள வேறு யாரும் கிடைக்காத காரணத்தினாலா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am not aware of this particular instance. But there should have been some reason for that."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Why is it that these Committees are not constituted in respect of non-Basic Training schools which form the majority of these schools? During the Budget discussion the Hon. Minister was pleased to say that he would consider the question of constituting some advisory committees for selection of candidates for admission to non-Basic Training institutions. May I also know what are the guiding principles of these committees in the matter of selection of candidates for admission to Basic Training schools?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, with regard to the non-Basic Training schools it is not of much importance now, because we will be converting all the non-Basic Training schools into Basic Training schools and automatically advisory committees will be appointed. With reference to the principle, instructions have been issued to the committees. If the hon. Member is interested he may put a separate question and I shall place those instructions on the table of the House."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" In view of the fact that the M.L.As. are the chosen representatives of the people will the Government think of making M.L.As., ex-officio Members of these Committees as is done in respect of some other committees?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I think the M.L.As. are to represent the people in this Legislature and not for every purpose. I do not think that this claim can be admitted, namely, that they should become ex-officio Members of every committee constituted in the districts."

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SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" It is unanimously acknowledged by all that I am the Member representing Villupuram constituency. I do not know why Sri Govindaswamy was appointed and not myself? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The hon. Member Sri Govindaswamy happened to apply for this post."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" The hon. Member is not here to answer."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" But I know it, I thought it would be good to appoint him in order to convert him also to the side of Basic Education. That is why he was appointed."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" There are only four Members on the committee for other Basic Training schools. I do not know the reason why there are five members on the committee for the Basic Training school, Villupuram. I do not know under what circumstances the fifth member was appointed? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have already stated that Sri Govindaswamy was very particular to have himself appointed as one of the Members of the selection committee. As we also wanted that he should get converted to Basic Education, we took the chance and appointed him."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" Has the hon. Member accepted the principles of basic education? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" That is what he professes."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that for the Committee in Tanjore and Pudukottai only Congressmen were selected? Does it therefore mean that Congressmen alone have faith in basic education and none else? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" That is not so, Sir. As a matter of fact the hon. Member Mr. Govindaswamy's appointment is under discussion now . . ." (Laughter.)

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" Members are not prepared to apply for appointment . . ."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Therefore the question that only Congressmen have faith in Basic Education, does not arise."

8-40 a.m. SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" Is it not a fact that some time ago the Government promised in the Government Order that all M.L.As. will be made ex-officio members of this Committee? If so, why are they going back upon that promise now? "

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The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not remember to have made any such promise on the floor of the House or anywhere else. Anyhow, if that is so, I shall look into it."

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—" Whereas there is a Government Order that all M.L.As. of the district can serve on the Prohibition Advisory Committee as well as the District Planning Committee which is so helpful in drafting the Second Five-Year Plan, will the Government consider the question of issuing another Government Order empowering the Members of the Legislature to serve on the Selection Committee because it is the only Committee where some useful work can be done by them to their constituencies? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am not quite sure about the useful work referred to by the hon. Member. But apart from that, I must tell the House that this Committee would consist of a limited number of members. Whereas in the Prohibition Advisory Committee and the Planning Committee, sufficiently a large number of Members are there and therefore all the M.L.As. can be included in those committees. I do not think that I can accept this principle of including all M.L.As. in the Selection Committee."

Sri S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" The Hon. Minister has stated that Members are here to represent their constituencies only on the floor of the House. But I think there is a definite Government Order that so far as matters relating to their constituencies are concerned, they are perfectly right in representing matters even to local officials? Such being the case, are we to understand that he is now going back upon that order and is it the intention of the Government that Members should represent their constituencies only on the floor of this House and not elsewhere? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I only said that they could not claim to be ex-officio members in every committee that is to be constituted in the district. This is one of the committees which does not relate exclusively to any particular constituency. Members have to be selected from other areas also in which case even the district cannot be taken as a unit. Therefore, it will lead to complications if I accept that principle."

Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" Is there any such committee constituted in Malabar? If so, may I know the names of the Members representing that district? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am sorry I cannot give off-hand the names of the members of the committee."

Sri S. RAMALINGAM :—" பள்ளிக்கூடம் சம்பந்தமாக இந்த அட்வைசரி கமிட்டி அங்கு பிரதிபலிக்கக்கூடிய எல்லா காரியங்களையும் பார்த்துக்கொள்வதாக கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் தெரிவித்தார்கள். ஆனால் ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட ஊரில் இருக்கக்கூடிய பள்ளிக்கூடத்தில் ஏதாவது ஊழல் நடந்தால் அதற்கு அந்தப் பக்கத்திலுள்ள எம்.எல்.ஏ.-தான் பொறுப்பாக ஆகிறது. அப்படியேதான பொதுமக்களும் சொல்லிவருகிறார்கள்.

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இதைச் சர்க்காரிடம் எடுத்துச் சொல்லுவது அவர்களுடைய கடமையாக இருக்கிறது. அங்கு ஊழல்கள் நடக்காமல் இருக்க அந்தப் பள்ளிக் கூடத்திற்கு பக்கத்திலுள்ள குறிப்பிட்ட அங்கத்தினரை மானேஜிங் கமிட்டியில் அட்வைசராக சேர்த்துக்கொள்வதற்கு சர்க்கார் யோசிப் பார்களா ? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" அந்த் அட்வைசரி கமிட்டியில் இல்லாமலேயே எம்.எல்.வ.-க்கள் ஊழல்களை சர்க்காருக்கு எடுத்துச்சொல்ல சௌகர்யங்கள் இருக்கின்றன."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" From the answer given by the Hon. Minister, it is presumed that hon. Members are taken on the Selection Committee on the understanding of the Minister or the Government that they are suitable persons for the expansion of Basic Education. May I know whether this understanding is based on the subjective understanding or the objective services that a particular individual has rendered with regard to basic education? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am unable to understand this ' subjective ' and ' objective ' question."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" By ' subjective ', I mean the personal relationship and the individual judgment of the Minister or Government without referring to the particular services that he or she has made in the matter of education. By ' objective ', I mean the material services rendered by the individual for the society and for the department concerned."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The relationship of the Minister concerned with any particular individual has no relevancy at all. The District Educational Officer, the Divisional Inspector of Schools and the Director of Public Instruction make recommendations and it is only on those recommendations that these appointments are made."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" But in almost all the district all the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of District Boards have been made ex-officio members of this committee. For instance, in the Chingleput district, it is the case. May I know how and under what circumstances, they have been selected and pushed up to this position. Are they more competent to serve on these committees than the Members of the Legislature who have been elected by the people? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I really do not understand the insinuation made by the hon. Member against the Presidents of District Boards. They have been elected by the chosen representatives of the people. As far as district boards are concerned, in that particular sphere they represent the entire district and they are the head of the district in matters relating to local administration and that is why it is easy to select them unlike 15 or 20 Members who represent a particular district."